

Seeking Backyard Scientists and Enviro-warriors
World Leaders in Aquaponics To Deliver Local Workshop

November 7, 2013 – Edmonton, AB – Urban friendly food production is one focus of the upcoming aquaponics workshop coming to the University of Alberta next week. Featuring internationally recognized experts in the field of aquaponics, the public presentation put together by Noa Fisheries will address personal systems for backyards and classrooms and commercial level operations and feature access to research facilities normally not open to the public. Featured speakers include Dr. Nick Savidov (Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development), Dr. James Tidwell (Kentucky State University) and Charlie Shultz (Lethbridge College) and will feature a rare guided tour of the aquaponics research facility at Crop Diversification Centre North.

“Our aim in bringing together these mentors and leaders in aquaponics is to provide practical knowledge and solutions for those who would like to raise both fish and plants simultaneously in a symbiotic system,” says Jason Oziel, Director of Ontario based Noa Fisheries. In aquaponics, the fish fertilize the water, the plants absorb the nutrients and thereby clean and filter the water for the fish, creating practical and sustainable agriculture. “By the end of the workshop, participants will have all the information required to design and maintain a system of any size.”

As a hobby, aquaponics is a combination of gardening and raising fresh fish. As a commercial venture, it can provide a ready source of organic fish and produce that are hormone and pesticide free. An aquaponics system may have as few as 10 fish and plants in a backyard operation, and up to several thousand in a commercial operation.

“We now supply the first hormone free all male commercial tilapia fry and fingerlings available, to Canada through a recent international partnership,” says Oziel, “but we’ve been supplying hobby and small commercial operations for some time now.”

For more information on this workshop or the topic of aquaponics in Edmonton, request our media package at noafisheries.ca/media-inquiries or to arrange an interview please contact 1- 416 -546-6623